

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered prior to the continued examination on the merits under a Request for Continued Examination of 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. A favorable action on the merits of the pending claims is now solicited.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Behrend for extending the courtesy of an interview to Applicant and Applicant's representative on July 12, 2001. New claims 59-67 are presently pending in this case. The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 11, 12, 15, 16, 48-55, and 57 under 35 U.S.C. §§112, 101, 102, and 103. Claims 5-10, 13, 14, 17-47, 56 and 58 were withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. The Applicant has hereby cancelled claims 1-58, but reserves the right to pursue these claims at a later date. Applicant believes that the Examiner's previous rejections are now moot in view of the newly presented claims.

CONCLUSION

As supported by the remarks herein, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited references and respectfully requests a notice of allowance to that effect. Should the Examiner require further correspondence with the Applicant in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Herzel LAOR

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